## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## **PCT**

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

| Applicant's or agent's file reference 1551                                  | FOR FURTHER ACTION  | See item 4 below   | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |
|---|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| International application No.<br>PCT/JP2004/004623                          | International filing date (day/month/year) 31 March 2004 (31.03.2004) | Priority date (day/month/year)<br>31 March 2003 (31.03:2003) |                                       |
| International Patent Classification (8th See relevant information in Form F | n edition unless older edition indicated) PCT/ISA/237                 |  |                                       |
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| 1. | This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 bis. 1(a). |  |  |
|----|--|--|--|
| 2. | This REPORT consists of a total of 8 sheets, including this cover sheet.   |  |  |
|    | In the attached sheets, any refer to the international preliminary   | ence to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.  |  |
| 3. | This report contains indications   | relating to the following items:   |  |
|    | Box No. I  | Basis of the report  |  |
|    | Box No. II   | Priority   |  |
|    | Box No. III  | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability   |  |
|    | Box No. IV   | Lack of unity of invention   |  |
|    | Box No. V  | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement                                      |  |
|    | Box No. VI   | Certain documents cited  |  |
|    | Box No. VII  | Certain defects in the international application   |  |
|    | Box No. VIII   | Certain observations on the international application  |  |
| 4. | The International Bureau will conot, except where the applicant date (Rule 44bis .2).  | communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority |  |

|   | Date of issuance of this report<br>22 February 2006 (22.02.2006) |
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